

Monday 23 Dec 1pm Funeral for Liz Ewan in Holy Trinity Church

Tuesday **CHRISTMAS EVE**

24 Dec 5pm Family Service (No communion)
8pm Carols & communion
11pm Carols by candlelight & communion

Wednesday **CHRISTMAS DAY**

25 Dec 8am Traditional communion with carols

Services Next Sunday 29 December 2024

GREYMOUTH:

8am Traditional Holy Communion
10am Family service with Communion & Music
2pm Holy Communion

KUMARA: No services. No Making Space.

Services Following Sunday 5 January 2025

GREYMOUTH:

8am Traditional Holy Communion
10am Family service with Communion & Music
2pm Holy Communion

KUMARA: Holy Communion (Marge)

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SATURDAY 28TH DECEMBER


FLOWERS
Bronwyn W
Jeanette



CHURCH CLEANING
Henry & Jenny
Hole



CHURCH MOWING
Tony Woollett



RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 2025


FLOWERS
Paula
Bronwyn S



CHURCH CLEANING
Henry & Jenny
Hole



CHURCH MOWING
Drummond Young



HOLY TRINITY Church

**Anglican Parish
of Greymouth & Kumara**
22 December 2024
*Growing Disciples of Jesus
Blessed to be a Blessing*

Theme Today: Advent 4 - Lessons and Carols

NEXT SUNDAY 29 DECEMBER

Theme: The Cost of Following Jesus
Readings: Acts 6: 8-10; 7:54-60; Matthew 10: 17-22
Preacher: Marge Tefft

SUNDAY 5 JANUARY 2025

Theme: The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ
Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12
Preacher: Doug Bray

SINCERE SYMPATHIES

Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Liz Ewan who passed away on Wednesday morning. We especially remember her two sons and their partners: Jonathan Goodall & Sauna Costello, and Jeremy & Samara Ewan, and also close friend Carolyn Williams.

Liz was an integral part of our parish since 2004 when she joined the leadership and music team of our 7:29 LIVE service on Sunday evenings and later the Sun 10am service. Her musical gifts and generosity were

appreciated by many. Please hold Liz's family in your prayers at this time.

A funeral to celebrate Liz's life will be held at Holy Trinity on Monday at 1pm.

HOLMES FAMILY

Greg, together with his son, Sam, left for England on Tuesday. They will be away about 4 weeks.

Emily, Elijah and Gabriel will be leaving on the morning of Christmas Day to have Christmas with extended family in the Tasman region. Emily will return to work on 20th Jan.

Prayer Requests to: Joanna Lorimer - 027 380 2989

Last Weekend: Attendance: 59 Offertory \$3,410 (Budget weekly total needed: \$3,700)
Holy Trinity Church account # 03-0846-0012777-00



Marge Writes

Today we worship with the traditional service of Lessons & Carols. This is an opportunity for us to

be reminded of our need of a Saviour, the ancient words of promise that a Saviour would come, and the story of the Saviour's coming at that very first Christmas. May you hear the readings and carols with fresh ears so that a word or phrase so that you are once again overwhelmed by God's love for you.

Robin and I along with Emily thank you for your many kindnesses throughout this year towards us, the parish and the wider community. It is such an honour to serve as your pastors.

Whether you will be in Greymouth or elsewhere this Christmas, I trust you will be able to join with others in worship. I also encourage you to find a quite moment to acknowledge the nearness of your Saviour and whisper, "thank you."

In light of my sermon last week, I wish you not a merry nor or a happy, but a joyous Christmas.

With love and blessings, *Marge*

HOW'S IT GOING?

Many use the words joy and happiness interchangeably. But biblically, the two are not synonymous because they each come from very different sources.

Happiness comes from the word happenstance which means circumstance. So, when my circumstances are everything as I want them to be, I am happy. There is nothing wrong with being happy, but it is not the same as joy.

Rick Warren writes, "Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the determined choice to praise God in every situation."

This means I can be joyful, even when tears are streaming down my face. Joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit and is not dependent on our circumstances; joy is dependent on staying near to God, recognizing his presence with us in spite of the circumstances.

One of Jesus' titles is *Emmanuel* which means *God with us* and when we know that God is with us, we can have joy just like Paul & Silas singing in the Philippian jail; just like the fetus of John the Baptist leaping for joy when Mary, carrying Jesus in her womb came near.

So, how's your joy?

CLEANING & LAWN MOWING

We so appreciate the way these teams keep our grounds and church looking so neat and inviting. Well done teams!

If you would like to join either the church cleaning team or church lawn mowing team for 2025, please contact Robin.

If you are currently on one of the teams and wish to opt out, please tell Robin!

A big thank you to all who served on this teams this year.

FLOWER ARRANGING

What a lovely job the flower arranging team does in keeping the front of the church and foyer so beautifully decked out with floral arrangements each week.

A big thank you to everyone who was part of this team this year.

If anyone is interested in joining the flower arranging team for 2025, please contact Jeanette Oliver.

If you are currently on the team and you wish to opt out, please tell Jeanette!

LIBRARY NEWS

If you are looking for holiday reading you may like to check out our Parish Library. We have a fantastic array of Christian fiction and non-fiction. We would like to revitalize our children's section. If anyone has good quality books, they would be willing to donate we would be very grateful. They can be placed in the library donation cupboard. If you let Joanna Lorimer know she can get them processed and onto the shelves. She can be contacted on 027 380 2989 or jmlorimer@outlook.com

For those not used to using our church library, please know that we act on an honesty basis. Just borrow the book or books you wish to read and return them within a month or two. There is a box for returns behind the sliding door under the bookshelf.

THE WITNESS MAGAZINE

This is available from the foyer. It contains a number of selected articles from the weekly diocesan magazine, Korero, over the last few months. Anyone can receive the weekly stories and articles for free on their email by going to nelsonanglican.nz and clicking on Korero at the top then scrolling down to sign up.

The printed magazine is designed for those who are not regular users of the internet. **Please let one of the clergy know if you find the magazine interesting and worthwhile.**

SOME GOOD NEWS

We are finding it increasingly difficult to raise grants towards the salary of our youth leader, Nicki Mora, for next year. However, we have just heard that we have received approval of our application for \$10,000 from The St Andrews Trust in Nelson.

We are extremely grateful to the Lord and to the Trust for the grant.

ARCHBISHOPS' LETTER

Enclosed is a Christmas greeting from our three archbishops representing the three Tikanga of our church: Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia. Their theme this year is "Hope" and it is worth a read.

CHRISTMAS DAY MEAL

The Baptist Church is unable to host a community meal this year, but Poutini Waiora has stepped into the gap and will have an event on Christmas Day from 10am-2pm at their Greymouth offices at 62 Shakespeare St. The meal will start being served from about 11am. People are free to come and go as they wish.

Anyone wishing to help them, please contact Zee Tana at 027 280 9403.

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People's Warden: Wayne Lorimer 027 329 1633

Kumara Contact: Nikki Davies 027 308 4584